

Message Text

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ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 AID-05 COME-00
EB-07 IO-13 TRSE-00 EPG-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
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R 070458Z JUL 77
FM AMCONGEN HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5632
INFO USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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FOR AGRICULTURE, FAS, FCA, MEEKER AND NOVOTNY

TOKYO, BUENOS AIRES, CANBERRA, AND OTTAWA FOR AGRICULTURAL
ATTACHES

FROM: AGRICULTURAL OFFICER

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, CH
SUBJ: PRC CROP CONDITION

FOLLOWING FROM NEELEY, AGOFFICER, USLO, PEKING:

1. USLO AGOFFICER TRAVELED WITH U.S. VEGETABLE FARMING
SYSTEMS DELEGATION FROM PEKING TO TSINAN, TAIAN, NANKING,
SHANGHAI, HANGCHOU, KUEILIN AND CANTON JUNE 16 TO JULY 6.

2. FROM AIR AT PEKING WHEAT OBSERVED TO BE RIPENING BUT NOT
UNIFORMLY. HARVEST JUST BEGINNING. TOWARD TAIAN LAND
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LOOKED VERY DRY. AROUND TSINAN, WHEAT ALREADY HARVESTED.
WHEAT LAND SOUTH OF YELLOW RIVER BEING TRANSPLANTED TO TO RIVE.

3. ON DRIVE FROM TSINAN TO TAIAN AREA APPEARED VERY DRY.
MOST IRRIGATED CORN NEAR TSINAN GOOD BUT SOME FIELDS CURLING.
DRY LAND CORN POOR. CORN THAT HAD BEEN INTERPLANTED WITH
WHEAT IS NOW INTERPLANTED WITH SUMMER CORN, SOYBEANS AND

SWEET POTATOES. COTTON 3 TO 4 INCHES TALL AND WELL GROWN.

4. AREA DEVOTED LARGELY TO CORN AND SOYBEANS BUT MANY FIELDS OF COTTON AND SWEET POTATOES.

5. TOWARD TAIAN LAND MUCH DRIER WITH LESS IRRIGATION. MOST CROPS SUFFERING FROM LACK OF WATER.

6. SAW TWO FIELDS OF UNHARVESTED WHEAT NEAR TAIAN WHICH WERE VERY POOR. HOWEVER, WHEAT BEING DRIED ON HIGHWAY HAD PLUMP KERNELS.

7. ALL FIELDS OF HEMP VERY LUSH AND GREEN - ABOUT 2 TO 3 FEET TALL.

8. A MEMBER OF THE SHANTUNG AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION STATED THAT SHANTUNG PROVINCE WAS HAVING A VERY GOOD WHEAT HARVEST. HE ALSO REMARKED THAT LAND HAD BEEN SHIFTED FROM SOYBEANS AND SORGHUM TO CORN IN RECENT YEARS AS CORN FITTED BETTER INTO THE INTERCROPPING SYSTEM THAN DID SORGHUM OR SOYBEANS.

9. THE AREA AROUND NANKING AND YANGCHO HAS HAD ADEQUATE RAINFALL. RICE PLANTED AFTER THE BARLEY HARVEST IS LUSH GREEN AND IN EXCELLENT CONDITION. RICE PLANTED AFTER WHEAT HARVEST IS MORE YELLOW THAN EXPECTED DUE TO COOL WEATHER AND INADEQUATE SUNSHINE. ONLY ABOUT HALF OF WHEAT LAND HAS BEEN TRANSPLANTED TO DATE. PLOWING AND TRANSPLANTING UNDERWAY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EVERYWHERE. WEATHER COOL CLOUDY AND RAINY. VEGETABLES AND OTHER CROPS FLOURISHING BUT SUNSHINE AND HOT WEATHER NEEDED BY NEWLY TRANSPLANTED RICE.

10. STAFF MEMBER OF NANKING RESEARCH INSTITUTE STATED THAT 1977 WHEAT HARVEST IN NANKING WAS ONLY AVERAGE AND LESS THAN EXPECTED.

1. ON TRAIN TRIP FROM NANKING TO SHANGHAI IT WAS OBSERVED THAT CONDITION OF RECENTLY TRANSPLANTED RICE IMPROVED AS WE MOVED EASTWARD FROM NANKING. OVER MOST OF AREA CONDITION OF RICE CROP VERY GOOD. RATHER LARGE AREAS OF COTTON AND SOYBEANS MAKING EXCELLENT GROWTH. COTTON ABOUT 6 INCHES TALL, SOYBEANS ABOUT 10 INCHES TALL. NO CORN BEING GROWN IN MOST OF AREA. ABOUT HALF OF WHEAT LAND ALREADY TRANSPLANTED TO RICE. REMAINING HALF BEING PLOWED AND TRANSPLANTED. SEEDLING BEDS FOR LATE RIVE BEING SEEDED. CROPS IN SHANGHAI AREA, INCLUDING SOME CORN LOOKED VERY GOOD.

12. BETWEEN SHANGHAI AND HANGCHOU MOST OF THE LAND IS PLANTED TO RIVE. TRANSPLANTING FOLLOWING WHEAT IS VIRTUALLY COMPLETED AND MOST SEEDLING BEDS FOR LATE RIVE HAVE BEEN

SEEDED. RICE IN EXCELLENT CONDITION. NEAR SHANGHAI WERE MANY LARGE FIELDS OF COTTON. NEAR HANGCHOU MUCH LAND DEVOTED TO MULBERRY AND JUTE. LITTLE CORN OR SOYBEANS IN AREA. EARLY RICE AROUND HANGCHOU IN FULL HEAD.

13. A PROFESSOR FROM THE CHEKIANG PROVINCIAL RESEARCH ACADEMY CHARACTERIZED THE 1977 WHEAT PRODUCTION IN THE HANGCHOU AREA AS "NOT BAD".

14. RICE HARVEST UNDER WAY IN CANTON AREA. MANY FIELDS SHOWED EXTENSIVE LODGING, BUT LITTLE EFFECT ON YIELDS EXPECTED, AS LODGING OCCURRED AFTER GRAIN HAD MATURED. DESPITE REPORTED DROUGHT IN AREA, YIELDS WILL BE HIGH. ROBERT CHANDLER, DELEGATION MEMBER AND FORMER HEAD OF I.R.R.I., ESTIMATED YIELD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FROM CROP NOW BEING HARVESTED AT ABOUT 5 TONS PER HECTARE.

15. RICE BEING HARVEST AROUND KUEILIN, KWANGSI PROVINCE, CROP LOOKS VERY GOOD. CHANDLER ESTIMATED YIELDS AT 3.5 TONS PER HECTARE.
CROSS

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